

## THE WASHINGTON HERALD

Published Every Morning in the Year by  
THE WASHINGTON HERALD COMPANY.

Subscription Office:  
734 FIFTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST.

Entered as second-class matter, October 3, 1906, at  
the post-office at Washington, D. C., under act of  
Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Telephone Main 3300. (Private Branch Exchange.)

The Washington Herald is delivered by carrier in  
the District of Columbia and at Alexandria, Va.,  
at 35 cents per month, daily and Sunday, or at  
25 cents per month without the Sunday issue.

Subscription Rates by Mail.  
Daily and Sunday.....\$5.25 per month  
Daily and Sunday.....\$12.25 per year  
Daily, without Sunday.....\$3.00 per month  
Daily, without Sunday.....\$30.00 per year

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Manuscripts offered for publication will be re-  
turned if unavailable, but stamps should be sent  
with the manuscript for that purpose.  
All communications intended for this paper,  
whether for the daily or the Sunday issue, should be  
addressed to THE WASHINGTON HERALD.

New York Office, Nassau-Broadway Bldg., LaCrosse &  
Maxwell, Managers.  
Chicago Office, Marquette Bldg., LaCrosse &  
Maxwell, Managers.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1907.

## Digging the Big Ditch.

With the letting of the contract for the  
actual work of digging the Panama  
Canal now at hand, we may hope to see  
this gigantic enterprise really under way  
within sixty days. The whole world will  
have an eye upon it. If Mr. Oliver gets  
the contract and "makes good," his name  
will find a place in history. The magni-  
tude of the task is almost too overwhelm-  
ing for contemplation. But this is the  
day of great things, and Americans are  
doing them. Theodore Roosevelt, Presi-  
dent of these United States, has in-  
jected his virile spirit into the project,  
and this unquestionably makes for suc-  
cess. It will be worth much to the con-  
tractor, whoever he be, that there is  
such a man in the White House. Politics  
will be kept out of it. Politics in it  
means scandal, financial loss, failure.  
The contractor must be there for busi-  
ness—hard, cold business. France set  
the example how not to do it. The American  
contractor who does the job can do it  
with a free, honest hand.

The country will wish him well.

It looks like a dark conspiracy between  
Damon Foraker and Pythias Tillman.

## German Colonial Policy.

The development of German colonial  
policy since Bismarck's time may be  
measured by the fervid appeals of Chan-  
celor von Bülow and Herr Dernburg,  
director of the colonial office, for the re-  
tention of German overseas dependencies  
on the ground that they are needed to  
furnish markets for the surplus produc-  
tion of the fatherland. Bismarck's policy  
was that of commercial expansion, and  
territorial acquisition was outside the  
sphere of his ambitions. Germany, in  
those days, was considered a land power  
only, her national policy was directed  
toward making the empire self-sufficient  
and self-sustaining, and the army was  
thought to provide ample means of de-  
fense. But with the growth of commerce  
and shipping there arose a demand for  
naval protection, and a program of  
naval construction was entered upon.  
Then began the era of world politics and  
of imperialist expansion—a new policy  
that was tersely summed up by the pre-  
sent German Emperor when he said in 1897:

"We have great duties in the world. There are  
German colonies where we must protect. German  
pride must be served abroad. The tribute  
belongs in our hands."

There is a notable analogy between the  
development of German colonial policy  
and the development of our own. We were  
for many years an isolated and self-suffi-  
cient nation, with no outlying dependen-  
cies of burdensome world-problems. Our  
commercial expansion followed normal  
lines, our navy was of moderate size, and  
our army a mere fragment. We annexed  
Hawaii to begin with, and later the  
Spanish war unloaded upon us a complete  
colonial outfit, problems, burdens, and all.  
Our new colonial policy aroused strong  
opposition, just as the Kaiser's colonial  
policy has, but the country has grudgingly  
sustained it, and it appears to be a  
fixure. As with Germany, our colonial  
trade is infinitesimal compared with our  
trade with the rest of the civilized world.  
Our colonies cost us more than they bring  
in, either in the way of revenue or of  
profits on trade. The same is true of the  
German colonies. It seems like a joke,  
therefore, to hear Herr Dernburg plead-  
ing for the colonies as necessary and  
perhaps exclusive outlets for German  
manufactures. If any one in this country  
should arise and attempt to convince us  
that the retention of the Philippines was  
necessary to keep the nation's life blood  
from ebbing away, he would be laughed  
to scorn. Yet Herr Dernburg's argument  
is of precisely the same order. German  
commerce will surely be in a bad way  
when it becomes dependent on the  
markets afforded by German East Africa,  
Kiao-chau, and Samoa.

It is said that Gov. Hughes is a great  
duck hunter. New York once landed a  
great duck hunter in the White House.

## A Sensible Temperance Movement.

The movement which has been inaugu-  
rated by a number of women to secure  
the restoration of the army canteen ought  
to be commended. It is in line with prac-  
tical temperance.

The abolition of the army canteen, it  
has been shown by experience, was a step  
in the wrong direction. Instead of de-  
creasing the evils of intemperance, it ag-  
gravated them. Under the old system the  
canteen was controlled by the personal  
observation of the higher officers. Its  
surroundings were clean, and disorder  
was not allowed. Drinking, in the usual  
sense of the word, was discouraged, but  
realizing that men will drink, reasonable  
license was allowed. With the abolition  
of the canteen the soldiers were forced to  
congregate in the disreputable saloons  
which immediately sprang up like mush-  
rooms just outside the limits of the  
army post. In these places, away from the  
control of the officers and under the  
restriction, the men developed habits  
which, in many instances, led them into  
trouble. The testimony of the army offi-  
cers upon this point is practically unani-  
mous. All of them have earnestly ad-  
vocated the restoration of the canteen.

The cause of temperance is a righteous  
one, and deserves the highest degree of  
encouragement. The women who are  
working to secure the re-establishment of  
the canteen are not casual temperance  
workers. They realize that universal ab-  
stinence from the use of liquor is an idle

dream, but they are endeavoring not  
only to curtail drinking, but to prevent  
excessive use. Their programme contains  
the germ of common sense.

A Philadelphia contemporary declares  
that this year will seem much longer  
without the usual railroad passes. In a  
good many instances, the railroads will  
also seem much longer.

## Our Friends the Japanese.

For some reasons it is to be regretted that  
our friends the Japanese have changed  
their purpose about sending a squadron  
of their fighting vessels on a visit to our  
Pacific Coast. Such visits between the  
battleships of friendly nations are cus-  
tomary, and do much toward fostering a  
better feeling, a deeper intimacy. It may  
be, of course, that, owing to the recent  
anti-Japanese movement in San Francisco  
and vicinity, the Japanese may have  
doubted the courtesy that would be  
extended to them, but if so, they have  
quite mistaken our national character.

During their recent war with Russia the  
Japanese had no stancher or more loyal  
friends than ourselves. The moral sup-  
port, as well as the financial aid, they  
received from the United States went a  
long way toward making possible the suc-  
cess they achieved; and there is some-  
thing of implied distrust in their change  
of naval programme that is deeply to be  
deplored.

Careful investigation of the anti-Japan-  
ese feeling on the Pacific Coast will  
show—it has been pretty clearly indicat-  
ed already—that the cause is not race pre-  
judice at all, but labor prejudice. It is the  
stress of industrial competition that has  
brought about the feeling. Whether or  
not it is right for the Japanese, with their  
lower standard of living and their lower  
ideals, to be allowed freely to compete  
with American labor is a wide question,  
and one that we do not propose to dis-  
cuss. The fact remains that for one reason  
or another the intensely friendly rela-  
tions that existed between the empire of  
the Mikado and ourselves have been  
severely strained, and the refusal of the  
Japanese naval authorities to allow their  
ships to come here as planned only serves  
to emphasize the unpleasantness.

It is not that we think that there is  
imperative need for a new and clear de-  
finition of our relations with the island  
empire. Under the present treaty, and  
with the present feelings on the Coast,  
there is altogether too much chance for  
misunderstanding, and that may easily  
have serious consequences. Once for all,  
the question should be settled as to the  
terms on which we are willing to do busi-  
ness with Japan. We must recognize  
that they have the right to be treated  
with the respect accorded to citizens of  
other nations, or we must let it be  
frankly known that we do not desire  
their immigration, except under such re-  
strictions as we have placed upon the  
immigrants of other Oriental countries.  
Even if we found it best to regulate Japan-  
ese immigration something after the  
same manner in which we have restricted  
Chinese immigration, that—which would  
cause the Japanese the deepest chagrin  
and humiliation—would be better than the  
present uncertain condition, with its many  
chances for mistakes.

An extensive reading of the newspapers  
shows that an uncommonly large number  
of States have their legislatures on their  
hands just now.

## Questions for Senator Tillman.

Granting Senator Tillman's premise that  
the white race must be, and ought to be,  
the ruling race in the South, as else-  
where in this land, is it a logical conse-  
quence of that premise—

That the ruling race cannot administer  
justice as between white man and black  
man?

That it cannot assure the punishment of  
all crimes by due process of law according  
to the ancient principles of Anglo-Saxon  
jurisprudence?

That it will be necessary, in order to  
maintain white supremacy, to make of the  
negro a subject?

Southern people themselves do not be-  
lieve it. John Sharp Williams, a Missis-  
sippian, recently spoke on this subject,  
and spoke well.

## What Was It?

The weighty discussion launched by the  
American Language Association at New  
Haven, Conn., a few weeks ago, as to  
whether it was an apple or some other  
fruit that Adam accepted from the  
hands of Eve in the Garden of Eden, is  
raging throughout the land, and with  
ever-increasing violence. Opinion is  
divided among scholars and heavy thinkers,  
although the paragraphs, flippantly  
and not unexpectedly, have arisen in  
their concerted might and declared with  
one voice that it was a lemon.

It is a grave and overshadowing ques-  
tion. The oft thrashed-out controversy  
as to whether the Book of Job is history  
or allegory pales into insignificance before  
it. The many times disputed vocal  
product of Balaam's ass is as nothing.  
For the moment, the identity, so to speak,  
of the fruit that Eve, in her thoughtless-  
ness, or through her innate curiosity,  
handed to her trusting and unsuspecting  
husband is the all-absorbing topic. Scholars  
gravely maintain that mistranslations  
have given the apple a place in Biblical  
history its fame and reputation do not  
deserve. There, unhappily, they stop.  
They designate the tempting morsel  
"fruit," but no more.

We see no possible solution likely to  
satisfy the entire country. Florida will  
insist that it was an Indian River orange;  
Georgia that it was an Elberta peach;  
California will claim that it was a prune;  
Ohio that it was a Ben Davis apple.  
Alabama cannot understand how it could  
have been anything less tempting than a  
watermelon, while, in the absence of  
something better, Connecticut may even  
claim that it was a wooden nutmeg.

The only difficulty with these theories  
is the disastrous after effects accorded  
to Adam and Eve following the as-  
similation of the offending fruit. No  
State will be willing to admit that such  
dire disaster could possibly follow the  
eating of any of its cherished products.  
Only good things happen to people who  
partake of Elberta peaches and California  
prunes. The idea of any action having its  
set fruit is preposterous. It is a  
We shall make no attempt to settle the  
difficulty. The question is too deep and  
too intricate for average minds. But it  
is vital, no doubt, to the welfare of the  
human race; especially if mankind is to  
progress, expand, and otherwise grow  
better, bigger, and more intellectual as  
time goes on. Column after column of  
newspaper space is being devoted to it.  
Having devoted our pro rata share, we  
drop the subject just where we picked  
it up.

A Berlin scientist claims that he can  
attach a severed head to a man's trunk,  
and that it is possible to save his life  
after the operation. Uncle Sam ought to  
hire this man to stay around the halls  
of Congress; he would come in handy  
when the statesmen lose their heads in  
debate.

The German Emperor is to send a com-  
mission to America to study American  
capitalists' way of doing things. It might  
not be entirely amiss for the commis-  
sion to also look carefully into their way  
of doing people.

"If the devil were in Washington, he  
would vote the Republican ticket," says  
Currie Nation. Mistake. He wouldn't  
vote at all.

"The way to treat danger is to walk  
right up to it and biff it between the  
eyes," notes a contemporary. Yes, indeed;  
especially if it takes the form of a rapidly  
approaching automobile.

Prayer is being put to some rather pecu-  
liar uses these days. A Wall street  
brokerage office opens each day with  
prayer, a Michigan newspaper has grace  
before each issue, and at Iowa, a meeting  
was preceded by a fervent invocation a  
few days since.

Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan sneezed a few  
days since, and the report was at once  
spread abroad that he was ill; the result  
being quite a break in certain securities.  
Nothing that Mr. Morgan does is to be  
sneezed at.

President Castro had a hard time living  
down the report of his death, but he  
seems to have accomplished it at last.

It is not even probable that Mr. Till-  
man would consent to a truce with a  
Teddy bear.

The Texas legislature is showing a dis-  
position to investigate that oily snail,  
at any rate.

"King Edward is a man of democratic  
habits," says the Nashville American.  
The way he holds on to his job and keeps  
peace in the party does not indicate it.

"The United States Senate will last  
longer than Jeff Davis, of Arkansas,"  
notes the Memphis Commercial-Appeal.  
Perhaps, but what will be the use? It  
may never look like anything again.

"Mr. Harriman's appetite is improv-  
ing," so a Philadelphia contemporary  
states. Last week Mr. Harriman was  
only able to assimilate a few sidekicks  
and short lines; now he can dispose of  
an entire trunk line with ease and dis-  
patch.

A few more touches of springtime, and  
garden "saws" will be in our midst once  
more.

Mr. George Gould says the car users  
are responsible for the car shortage. If  
they didn't need so many cars there would  
be no shortage. Well, now, that may be  
a fact. It is wonderful that no one  
thought of it before.

Senator Beveridge may, out of sheer  
annoyance, have made the statement that  
he never carries an umbrella. He is prob-  
ably a victim of the cheerful habit of in-  
variably leaving his umbrella at the other  
end of the line the day it rains.

"Opportunity is again knocking at the  
door of the Democratic party," says the  
Indianapolis Star. As usual, the Savan-  
nah family is raising such a ruckus about  
that Opportunity will probably not get in.

"When a girl wears low shoes in win-  
ter, it is a sure sign she has pretty ankles  
and knows it," observes the Savannah  
Press. If the observation be true, it fur-  
ther shows that she accomplishes her  
purpose, so far, at least as the Press is  
concerned.

The Sunday delivery of ice has been  
outlawed in Boston. Ice is one of the  
necessentials in Boston homes, anyhow.

Mayor George B. McClellan shows a  
real jobably disinclination to go behind  
the jobably.

The Shah of Persia leaves eight hundred  
widows. The sign of one having as many as  
eight hundred mothers-in-law at once!

Down in North Carolina the legislature  
disputes upon the governor reading his  
message to both houses of the assembly.  
It is a question of precedence.

"There are more fresh people in this  
world than fresh eggs," notes the Balti-  
more Sun. That seems to be the way of  
the world; a superabundance of the bad  
things and a scarcity of the good.

Tillman & Foraker, Consulting Attor-  
neys. Obstreperous cases a specialty.

The Chicago News is disposed to brag a  
little because Steele was not allowed to  
blow up any banks while a resident of  
that city. Perhaps the Stenslands dis-  
courage him.

Col. Harvey and the London Saturday  
Review are agreed that this country is  
face to face with such a crisis as con-  
fronted it in 1861. They ought not to take  
the Mingoes and the Jingoes so seriously.

A rather good sized earthquake is re-  
ported in Norway. This is ominous, in  
view of the fact that the Storting re-  
cently raised the King's salary.

The most remarkable thing in connection  
with the spring-like weather we have  
been having of late is the fact that no  
enterprising citizen has thought to come  
forth and kill the peach crop.

At the launching of a steamer last  
week something like six dozen quart bot-  
tles of champagne were cracked over the  
bow. And still there are prohibitionists  
who decry the practice!

A South Carolina woman sold nine  
hogs last week for \$192.92. Being a woman,  
she just couldn't make up her mind to  
charge \$200 even.

"If the Democrats get hold of the gov-  
ernment again, the supply of freight cars  
will be found sufficient," states the Kan-  
sas City Journal. But that's a long time  
to wait.

## Victorians.

From Cassell's Magazine.  
Two young men, both residents in a  
large Scottish city, met one day in the  
street.

"Well, Tam," said the first, "I hear  
you're in love with bonny Kate McAllister."  
"I must say," replied the other, "I was  
near-very near-it; but the lass had nae  
siller, so I said to myself, 'Mac, be a  
man.' And I was a man, and no I pass  
her with siller contempt."

## Politeness in Shopping.

From the New Orleans Times-Democrat.  
"Never put my dear," said the mother  
gently.

"But, mamma," objected the little girl,  
"suppose I don't know the name of the  
thing?"  
"Then let the salesman show you all he  
has in stock until he comes to the article  
that is desired."

## Well Supplied.

From the Savannah News.  
"What's the difference between insur-  
ance and assurance?"  
"The distinction is that the average  
agent has the former to sell and the lat-  
ter to burn."

## One Fight Too Many.

From the Birmingham News.  
The announcement that Mr. Harriman  
will make war on Mr. Roosevelt suggests  
that there is such a thing as a captain  
of industry, too, fighting one battle too  
many for his own good.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

## AN AWESOME AFFAIR.

"There was a flurry in the House yes-  
terday,"—Press Reports.  
A flurry in the House, my friends,  
is something dire and dread.  
One member will not make amends  
For something he has said,  
Whereat some wild and untamed chap  
Is apt to shake a fist,  
And threaten to bestow a slap  
Upon somebody's wrist.

The fact that some one bears a grudge  
To fearful talk gives rise.  
The portals ring with "fudge" and "fudge,"  
And such bloodthirsty cries.  
A man who used to scenes of gore  
Is apt to play the mouse  
And, terror-stricken, flee before  
A flurry in the House.

Flouting a Scheme.  
"They say that old Tiddewell, after he  
has had a couple, is liable to loosen up  
and buy liberally."  
"Is that so? Well, I'll invest 15 cents  
toward a pool to exploit the proposition."

Fully Occupied.  
"We won't be bothered none this after-  
noon," declared the housemaid.  
"Fy po!" inquired the cook.  
"The misses has got a friend in to dis-  
cuss the servant problem."

Unmistakable.  
A maiden's no may well mean yes,  
As claims the poet crew;  
But it is time to skip, I guess,  
When ladies say "skidoo."

The New Copy Book.  
"Thrill and industry will carry a man  
far," remarked white-whiskered Senator  
Graball.  
"You bet!" chimed in Senator Klutch.  
"Coupled with a protected enterprise and  
a few secret rebates, they are practically  
invaluable."

Those Foolish Questions.  
"Hello, old man! Back from Europe?"  
"No, indeed, dear boy. I'm still there."

Not All Perfect.  
"Mr. Carnegie's young men are much  
like the general run."  
"Say your say."  
"Some of 'em live to do good and others  
divorce their wives to marry chorus  
ladies."

## THE INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

## THE JONES-BROWN CASE.

(A Berlin surgeon asserts that it will soon  
be possible to replace a head that has  
been cut off, to graft arms and legs, &c.)  
Philatus Jones had always said he  
thought that Hector Brown  
Was certainly the finest-looking man in  
the town.  
And strange to say, but Brown had often  
heaved some long moans  
Because he thought a man to be just right  
must look like Jones.

And so when science had advanced to  
just the right degree  
Philatus Jones sought Hector Brown and  
said: "Trade heads with me."  
The deal was made, the surgeon hired,  
and soon upon each neck  
Arose another head—Philatus was the  
one from Heck.

Now Hector had Philatus' head, but was  
not satisfied with the result.  
"I always liked the way your arms  
swung neatly on each side,  
And if it's all the same to you, suppose  
our arms we trade."

Philatus said "Twas just the thing, and  
soon the shift was made.  
A year or two succeeding that Philatus  
took a stroll  
And thought he had Hector's legs  
much too joyful.

Accordingly he went to Brown and  
planned another swap—  
And then they hurried down the street  
To find the surgeon's shop.

But still, although they had each other's  
legs and arms and head,  
They were not wholly satisfied. "Old  
man," said Philatus, "I salute  
you pleasantly as Senators who salute him,  
but to those who appear not to want to  
be brought in any sort of contact with  
him, he is as independent and indifferent  
as if he had never seen him."

It may be significant that he is being  
talked of more for President-to-day than  
he ever was before. Whether or not  
he is an organized movement in his  
favor is not known. He is now, per-  
haps, the most popular political lecturer  
in the country, and his services are in  
constant demand on the extensive Chau-  
taquias circuit. His attitude toward his  
colleagues in the Senate is absolutely  
fearless and indifferent as to what they  
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